

Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology

SPECIAL PUBLICATION P-12

# Major Mines of Nevada 2000

## Mineral Industries in Nevada's Economy

By Doug Driesner and Alan Coyner

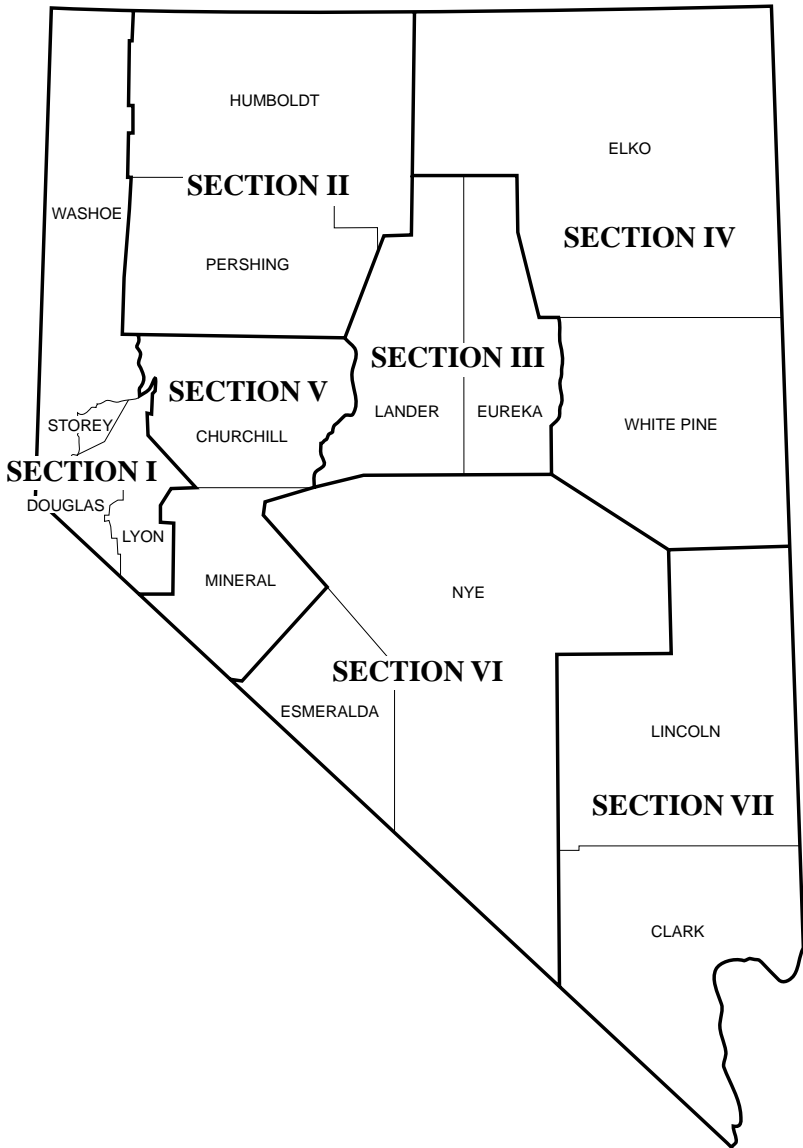
The Nevada Division of Minerals

# 2001

This is the twelvth of an annual series of summary reports on major mines of Nevada. Sand and gravel operations are not included. Information on employment and production for the calendar year 2000 was provided by the individual mine operators. The Nevada Division of Minerals maintains a complete register of Nevada mines. For further information, contact them at 400 W. King, Suite 106, Carson City, Nevada 89703 or call (775) 684-7040, or visit their Web site at **[www.minerals.state.nv.us](http://www.minerals.state.nv.us)**.

MACKAY SCHOOL OF MINES

UNIVERSITY  
OF NEVADA  
RENO



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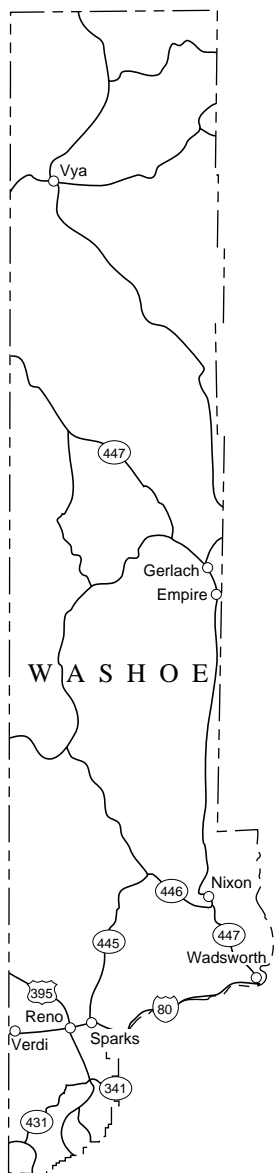
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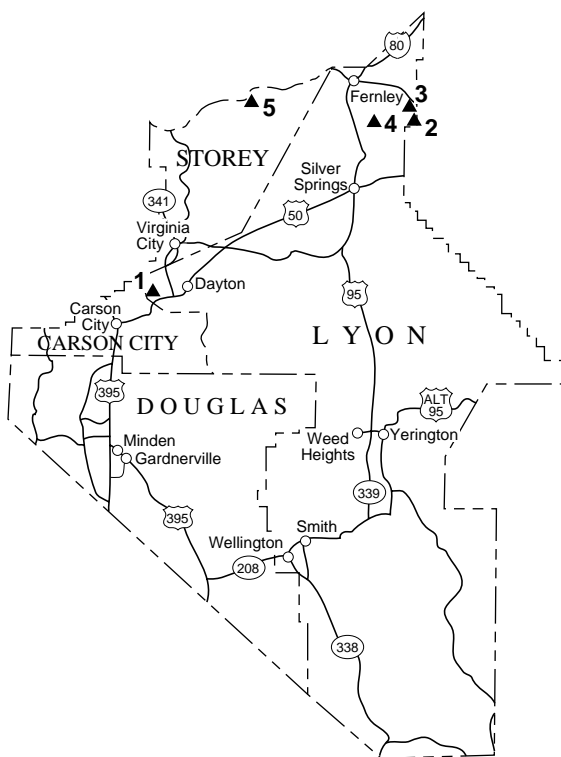
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0 10 20 30 40 50 Miles



0 5 10 15 20 25 Miles



## Section I

### **Lyon County**

#### **Adams Claim Gypsum Mine (1)**

*Operator:*

Art Wilson Co.  
P.O. Box 20160  
Carson City, NV 89721  
775-882-0700 Fax: 882-0790  
Company employees: 17

*Production:*

Gypsum - 132,754 tons

#### **CR Minerals Mine (2)**

*Operator:*

CR Minerals Corp.  
100 Front Street  
Fernley, NV 89408  
775-575-2536 Fax: 575-4857  
Company employees: 17

*Production:*

Diatomite

#### **Hazen Pit (3)**

*Operator:*

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc.  
P.O. Box 10408  
Reno, NV 89510  
775-824-7700 Fax: 824-7715

*Production:*

Diatomite

#### **NCC Limestone Quarry (4)**

*Operator:*

Nevada Cement Co.  
P.O. Box 840  
Fernley, NV 89408  
775-575-2281 Fax: 575-4387  
Company employees: 129

*Production:*

Limestone/Clay

### **Storey County**

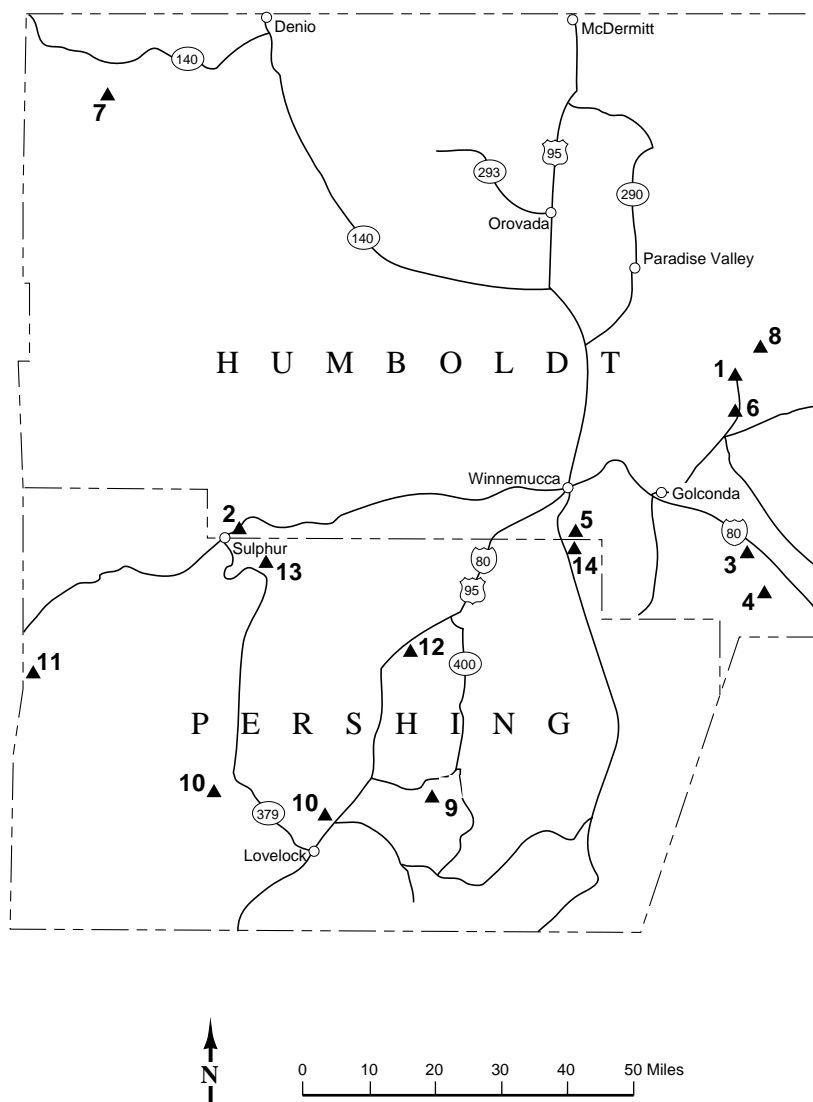
#### **Clark Mine and Mill (5)**

*Operator:*

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc.  
P.O. Box 10408  
Reno, NV 89510  
775-824-7700 Fax: 824-7715  
Company employees: 74

*Production:*

Diatomite



## Section II

### **Humboldt County**

#### **Getchell and Turquoise Ridge Mines (1)**

*Operator:*

Getchell Gold Corp.  
HC-66 Box 220  
Golconda, NV 89414-9702  
775-529-5001 Fax: 529-0752  
Company employees: 20

*Production:*

Gold - Development/stockpiling

#### **Hycroft Mine (2)**

*Operator:*

Hycroft Resources & Dev., Inc.  
P.O. Box 3030  
Winnemucca, NV 89446  
775-623-5260 Fax: 623-0215  
Company employees: 7

*Production:*

Gold - 13,493 oz  
Silver - 38,418 oz  
Mercury - 7,447 lbs

#### **Lone Tree Mine (3)**

*Operator:*

Newmont Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 388  
Valmy, NV 89438  
775-635-9000 Fax: 635-0111  
Company employees: 334

*Production (includes Trenton Canyon):*

Gold - 281,022 oz  
Silver - 38,346 oz

#### **Marigold Mine (4)**

*Operator:*

Glamis Gold, Inc.  
P.O. Box 160  
Valmy, NV 89438  
775-623-9571 Fax: 635-2551  
Company employees: 100

*Production:*

Gold - 68,000 oz

#### **MIN-AD Mine and Mill (5)**

*Operator:*

MIN-AD, Inc.  
4210 W. Junco Road  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
775-623-5944 Fax: 623-9028  
Company employees: 15  
Contract employees: 4

*Production:*

Dolomite - 74,092 tons

#### **Pinson Mine (6)**

*Operator:*

Pinson Mining Co.  
P.O. Box 129  
Winnemucca, NV 89446  
775-529-5026 Fax: 529-5030  
Company employees: 9

*Production:*

Gold - 1,116 oz  
Silver - 31 oz

#### **Royal Peacock Opal Mine (7)**

*Operator:*

Walter Wilson  
1 Homestead Road P.O. 144  
Orovada, NV 89425  
775-941-0374

*Production:*

Precious opal

#### **Twin Creeks Mine (8)**

*Operator:*

Newmont Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 69  
Golconda, NV 89414  
775-623-4300 Fax: 635-4602  
Company employees: 646

*Production:*

Gold - 779,075 oz  
Silver - 103,909 oz

## **Pershing County**

### **Coeur Rochester Mine (9)**

#### *Operator:*

Coeur D'Alene Mines Corp.  
P.O. Box 1057  
Lovelock, NV 89419  
775-273-7995 Fax: 273-7050  
Company employees: 246

#### *Production:*

Gold - 75,886 oz  
Silver - 6,678,274 oz

### **Colado Mine and Plant (10)**

#### *Operator:*

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc.  
150 Coal Canyon Road  
Lovelock, NV 89419  
775-824-7540 Fax: 824-7582  
Company employees: 140

#### *Production:*

Diatomite, Perlite

### **Empire Mine (11)**

#### *Operator:*

United States Gypsum Co.  
P.O. Box 130  
Empire, NV 89405  
775-557-2341 Fax: 557-2212  
Company employees: 148

#### *Production:*

Gypsum - 499,236 tons

### **Florida Canyon Mine (12)**

#### *Operator:*

Florida Canyon Mining, Inc.  
P.O. Box 330  
Imlay, NV 89418  
775-538-7300 Fax: 538-7324  
Company employees: 195  
Contract employees: 6

#### *Production:*

Gold - 173,623 oz  
Silver - 129,361 oz

### **Rosebud Mine (13)**

#### *Operator:*

Hecla Mining Co.  
P.O. Box 2610  
Winnemucca, NV 89446  
775-623-6912 Fax: 623-6967  
Company employees: 97

#### *Production:*

Gold - 47,944 oz  
Silver - 191,919 oz

### **W. Glen Sexton Family Trust (14)**

#### *Operator:*

Nutritional Additives Corp.  
415 Wellington Street  
Winnemucca, NV 89445  
775-623-1151 Fax: 623-1153  
Company employees: 6

#### *Production:*

Dolomite - 3,172 tons



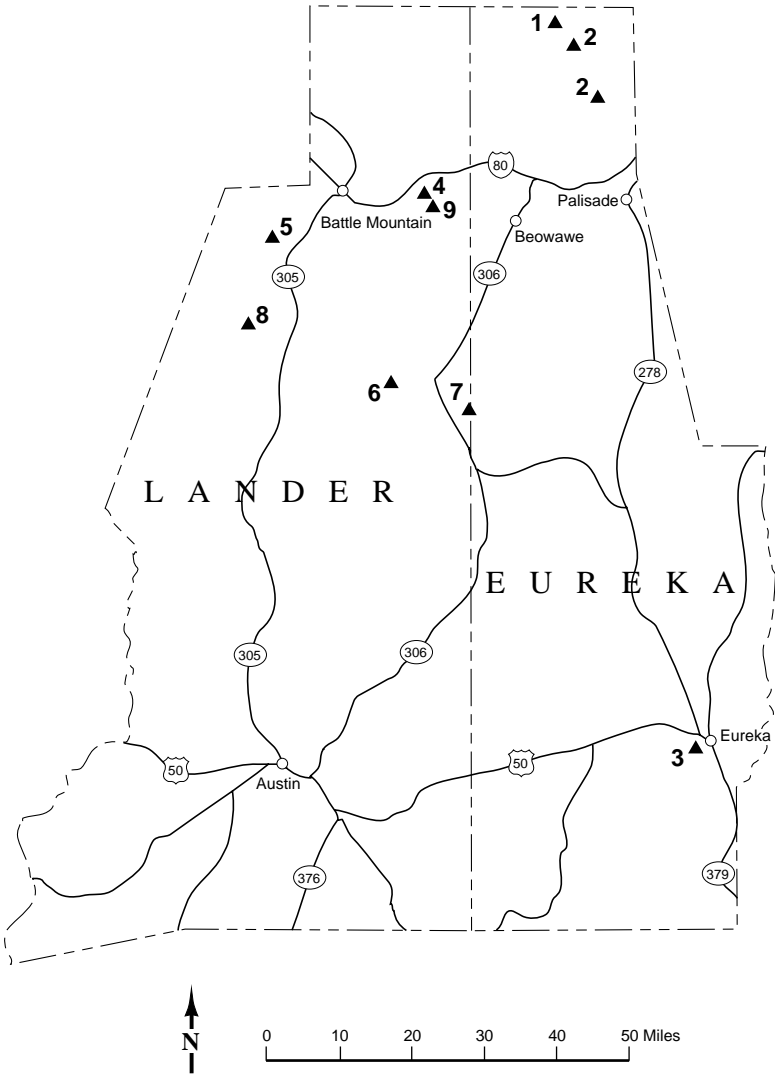


**Safety specialist, Randy Squires, checks on  
equipment at the Newmont Mine East Carlin site**

***"My dad, my inspiration, my friend"  
photo by Shannon Squires***

### Voices of Youth program

17-year-old Shannon Squires of Elko, Nevada visited the Newmont Mine this past summer with camera and recorder in hand documenting life in the mining industry. Her work was part of the Voices of Youth program; an internship sponsored by the Western Folklife Center providing local students with training in professional photography and sound recording. Interns used their newly acquired skills to present a photographic exhibition and CD recording focusing on issues facing people in the rural west. To see and hear more about the Voices of Youth program, visit [www.westernfolklife.org/voy](http://www.westernfolklife.org/voy). Shannon intends to major in photo journalism when she begins college.



## Section III

### Eureka County

#### **Betze-Post Mine (1)**

*Operator:*

Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc.  
P.O. Box 29  
Elko, NV 89803  
775-738-8043 Fax: 738-6543  
Company employees: 1,333  
Contract employees: 220

*Production:*

Gold - 1,646,640 oz  
Silver - 52,000 oz

#### **Ruby Hill Mine (3)**

*Operator:*

Homestake Mining Co.  
P.O. Box 676  
Eureka, NV 89316  
775-237-6060 Fax: 237-5408  
Company employees: 90  
Contract employees: 9

*Production:*

Gold - 125,193 oz  
Silver - 7,984 oz

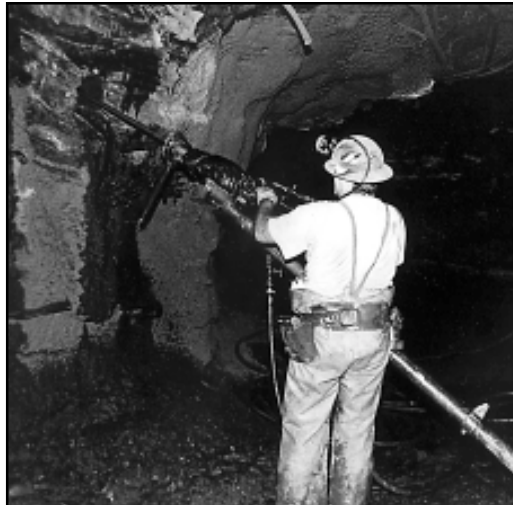
#### **Carlin Operations (2)**

*Operator:*

Newmont Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 669  
Carlin, NV 89822  
775-778-4000 Fax: 778-4757  
Company employees: 1,633

*Production:*

Gold - 1,708,665 oz  
Silver - 92,170 oz  
Mercury - 12,100 pounds



Underground miner at work at the  
Newmont Mining Corporation East Carlin site

**"Beware the tommy knockers!"**  
*photo by Shannon Squires*

## **Lander County**

### **Argenta Mine and Mill (4)**

#### *Operator:*

Baker Hughes INTEQ  
P.O. Box 277  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
775-635-5441

Company employees: 18

#### *Shipped:*

Barite - 44,835 tons

### **Battle Mountain Complex (5)**

#### *Operator:*

Battle Mountain Gold Co.  
P.O. Box 1627  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
775-635-2465 Fax: 635-8677

Company employees: 20

Contract employees: 1

#### *Production:*

Gold - 1,509 oz

Silver - 1,756 oz

### **Battle Mountain Grinding Plant (Greystone Mine) (6)**

#### *Operator:*

M-I L.L.C.  
P.O. Box 370  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
775-635-5135 Fax: 635-2191

Company employees: 80

#### *Shipped:*

Barite - 333,734 tons

### **Cortez Gold Mines (7)**

#### *Operator:*

Placer Dome U.S. Inc.  
HC66-50 Star Route  
Beowawe, NV 89821  
775-468-4400 Fax: 468-4496

Company employees: 377

Contract employees: 9

#### *Production:*

Gold - 1,009,992 oz

### **McCoy/Cove Mine (8)**

#### *Operator:*

Echo Bay Minerals Co.  
P.O. Box 1658  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
775-635-5500 Fax: 635-5098

Company employees: 149

Contract employees: 25

#### *Production:*

Gold - 162,784 oz

Silver - 12,328,297 oz

### **Mule Canyon (9)**

#### *Operator:*

Newmont Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 338  
Valmy, NV 89438  
775-635-9000 Fax: 635-0111

Company employees:  
included with Lone  
Tree Mine

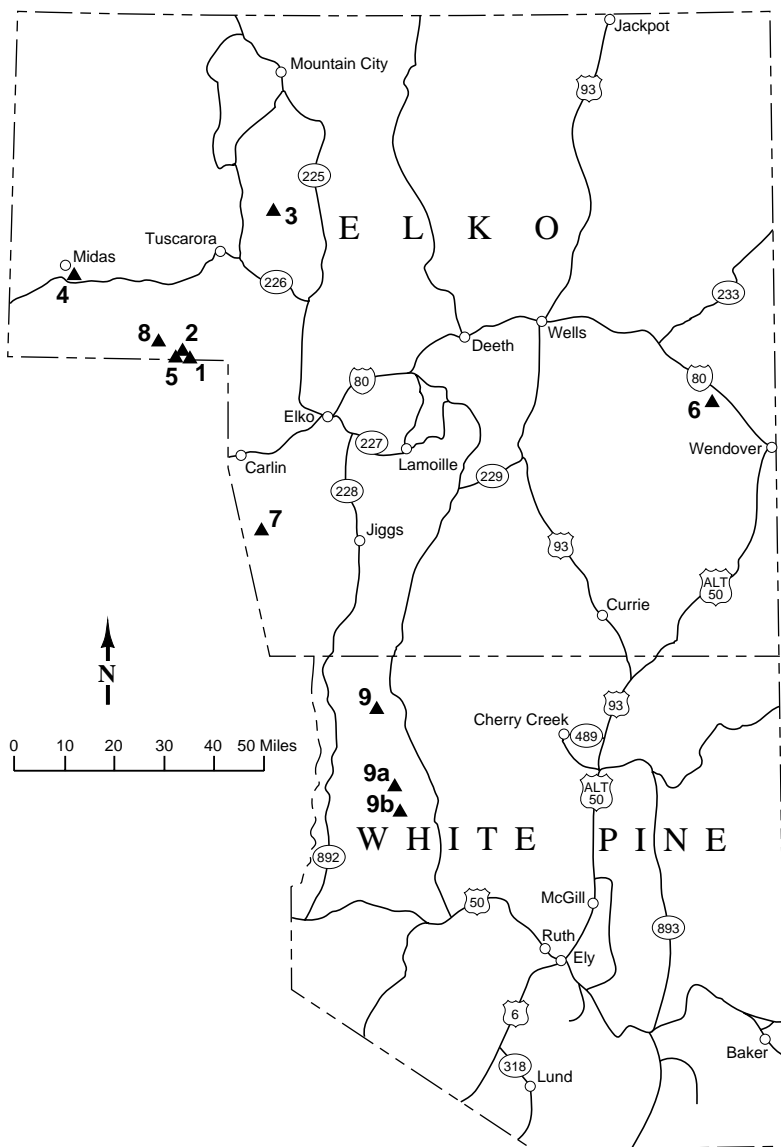
#### *Production:*

Gold - 40,027 oz

Silver - 5,856 oz



**Phil Sullivan talks with visitors to the Newmont Mine East Carlin site this past summer, *photo by Shannon Squires***



## Section IV

### Elko County

#### **Capstone/Bootstrap Mine (1)**

*Operator:* Newmont Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 669  
Carlin, NV 89822  
775-778-4000 Fax: 778-4757  
Employees: included with  
Carlin Operations  
*Production:* Gold - 131,979 oz  
Silver - 13,402 oz  
Mercury - 1,759 lbs

#### **Dee Gold Mine (2)**

*Operator:* Glamis Gold, Inc.  
P.O. Box 160  
Valmy, NV 89438  
775-761-1709 Fax: 934-0082  
Company employees: 41  
Contract employees: 21  
*Production:* Gold - 61,171 oz  
Silver - 110,900 oz

#### **Jerritt Canyon Mine (3)**

*Operator:*  
AngloGold (Jerritt Canyon) Corp.  
HC31 Box 78  
Elko, NV 89801  
775-738-5006 Fax: 758-5453  
Company employees: 436  
Contract employees: 12  
*Production:* Gold - 334,747 oz

#### **Ken Snyder Mine (4)**

*Operator:* Dynatec Mining Corp.  
HC 66 Box 105  
Midas, NV 89414-9801  
775-529-0611 Fax: 529-0612  
Company employees: 229  
Contract employees: 5  
*Production:*  
Gold - 197,800 oz  
Silver - 1,941,989 oz

#### **Meikle Mine (5)**

*Operator:* Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc.  
P.O. Box 29  
Elko, NV 89803  
775-738-8043 Fax: 738-6543  
Company employees: 468  
Contract employees: 60  
*Production:* Gold - 805,718 oz  
Silver - 205,000 oz

#### **Pilot Peak Lime Plant (6)**

*Operator:* Graymont Western U.S.  
P.O. Box 2520  
West Wendover, NV 89883  
775-483-5463 Fax: 483-5149  
Company employees: 48  
*Production:* Limestone, Quicklime,  
Hydrate

#### **Rain Mine (7)**

*Operator:* Newmont Mining Corp.  
P.O. Box 669  
Carlin, NV 89822  
775-778-4000 Fax: 778-4757  
Employees: included with  
Carlin Operations  
*Production:* Gold - 25,004 oz  
Silver - 2,539 oz  
Mercury - 333 lbs

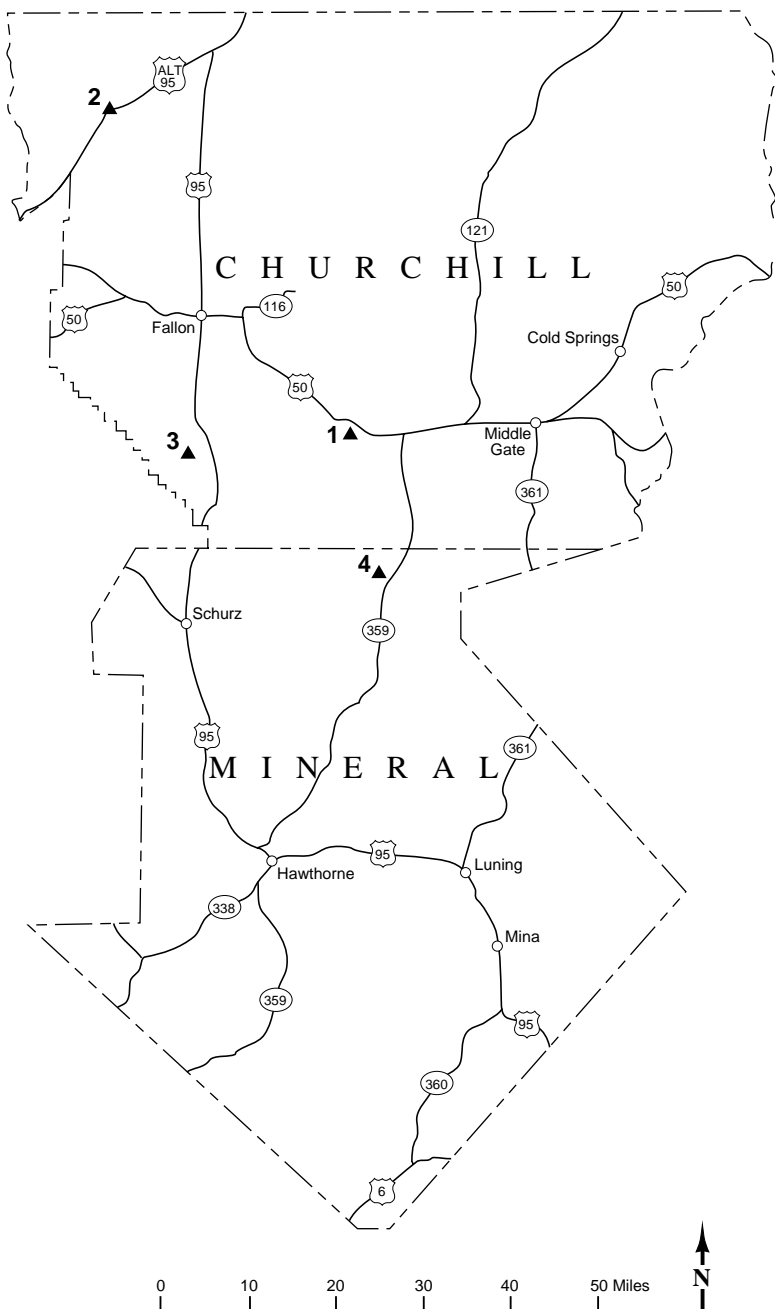
#### **Rossi Mine-Dunphy Mill (8)**

*Operator:* BAROID (Halliburton  
Energy Services, Inc.)  
912 Dunphy Ranch Rd.  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820  
775-468-0515 Fax: 468-2060  
Company employee: 1  
Contract employees: 34  
*Shipped:* Barite - 99,697 tons

### White Pine County

#### **Bald Mountain Mine (9)**

*Operator:* Placer Dome U.S. Inc.  
P.O. Box 2706  
Elko, NV 89803  
775-744-4227 Fax: 744-4216  
Company employees: 127  
*Production (includes Casino/Winrock,  
Mooney Basin, Little Bald Mountain,  
Alligator Ridge [9a], and Yankee [9b]):*  
Gold - 134,469 oz,  
Silver - 14,400 oz





## Section V

### **Churchill County**

#### **Huck Salt (1)**

*Operator:*

Huck Salt & Sons, Inc.  
5033 Austin Hwy.  
Fallon, NV 89406  
775-423-2055 Fax: 423-0467  
Company employees: 4

*Production:*

Salt - 12,964 tons

#### **Moltan Company/Fernley Nevada Facility (2)**

*Operator:*

Moltan Company  
P.O. Box 860  
Fernley, NV 89408  
775-423-6668 Fax: 423-6411  
Company employees: 43

*Production:*

Diatomite

#### **Popcorn Perlite Mine (3)**

*Operator:*

Eagle-Picher Minerals, Inc.  
P.O. Box 10408  
Reno, NV 89510  
775-824-7700 Fax: 824-7633

*Production:*

Perlite

### **Mineral County**

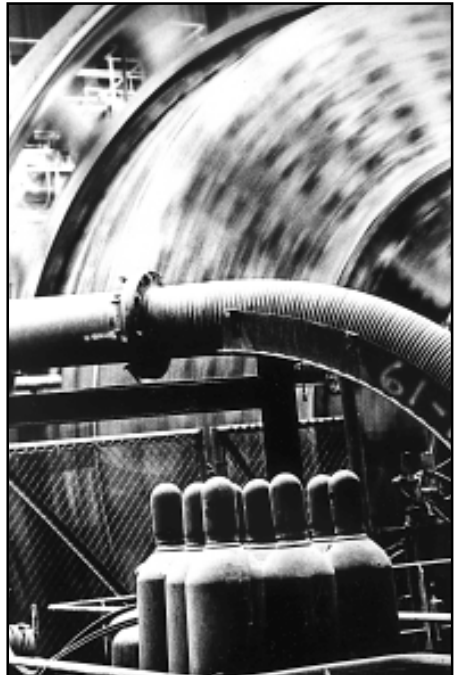
#### **Denton-Rawhide Mine (4)**

*Operator:*

Kennecott Rawhide Mining Co.  
P.O. Box 2070  
Fallon, NV 89407  
775-945-1015 Fax: 945-1213  
Company employees: 182  
Contract employees: 4

*Production:*

Gold - 104,349 oz  
Silver - 817,787 oz



**Newmont Mining Corporation  
East Carlin site, Nevada**

**"Such big machines for such little amounts  
of gold," photo by Shannon Squires**

## Section VI

### **Esmeralda County**

#### **Grefco Minerals (1)**

*Operator:*

Grefco Minerals, Inc.  
P.O. Box 288  
Mina, NV 89422  
775-Dicalite Toll Station #1  
Fax: 760-872-6006  
Company employees: 29

*Production:*

Diatomite

#### **Mineral Ridge Mine (2)**

*Operator:*

Golden Phoenix Minerals, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67  
Silver Peak, NV 89047  
775-482-4406  
Company employees: 9

*Production:*

Gold - 2,200 oz  
Silver - 1,000 oz

#### **Silver Peak Operations (3)**

*Operator:*

Chemetall Foote Corp.  
P.O. Box 98  
Silver Peak, NV 89047  
775-937-2222 Fax: 937-2250  
Company employees: 65  
Contract employees: 8

*Production:*

Lithium compounds

### **Nye County**

#### **Daisy Gold Mine (4)**

*Operator:*

Glamis Daisy Mining Co.  
P.O. Box 190  
Beatty, NV 89003  
775-553-2234 Fax: 553-2295  
Company employees: 6  
Contract employees: 37

*Production:*

Gold - 8,740 oz

#### **IMV Nevada (5)**

*Operator:*

Mud Camp Mining Co. LLC  
dba IMV Nevada  
Route Box 549  
Amargosa Valley, NV 89020  
775-372-5341 Fax: 372-5640  
Company employees: 33

*Production:*

Specialty clays - 33,545 tons

#### **New Discovery Mine and Mill (6)**

*Operator:*

Vanderbilt Minerals Corp.  
2320 Viking Road  
Las Vegas, NV 89109  
702-732-3174 Fax: 731-3621  
Company employees: 7

*Production:*

Specialty clay - 396 tons

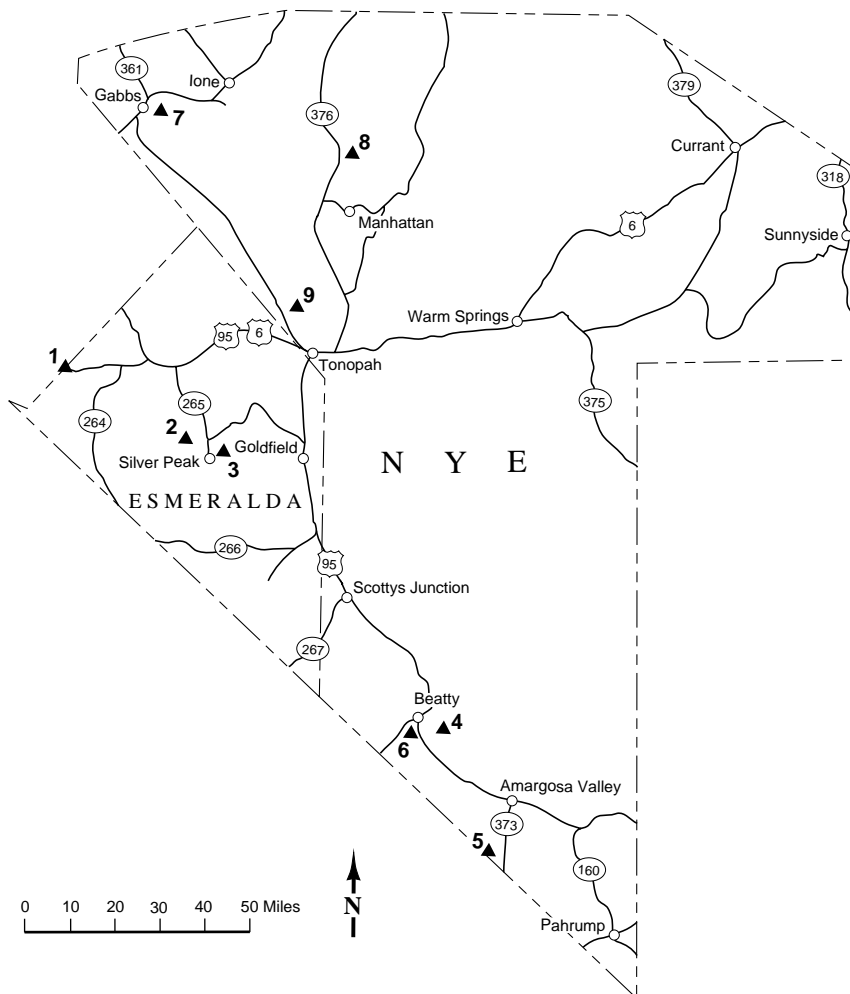
#### **Premier Chemical (7)**

*Operator:*

Premier Chemical  
P.O. Box 177  
Gabbs, NV 89409  
775-285-2601 Fax: 285-4021  
Company employees: 85

*Production:*

Magnesium oxide



### **Smoky Valley Common Operation (8)**

#### *Operator:*

Round Mountain Gold Corp.  
P.O. Box 480  
Round Mountain, NV 89045-0480  
775-377-2366 Fax: 377-3240  
Company employees: 652

#### *Production:*

Gold - 640,133 oz  
Silver - 424,530 oz

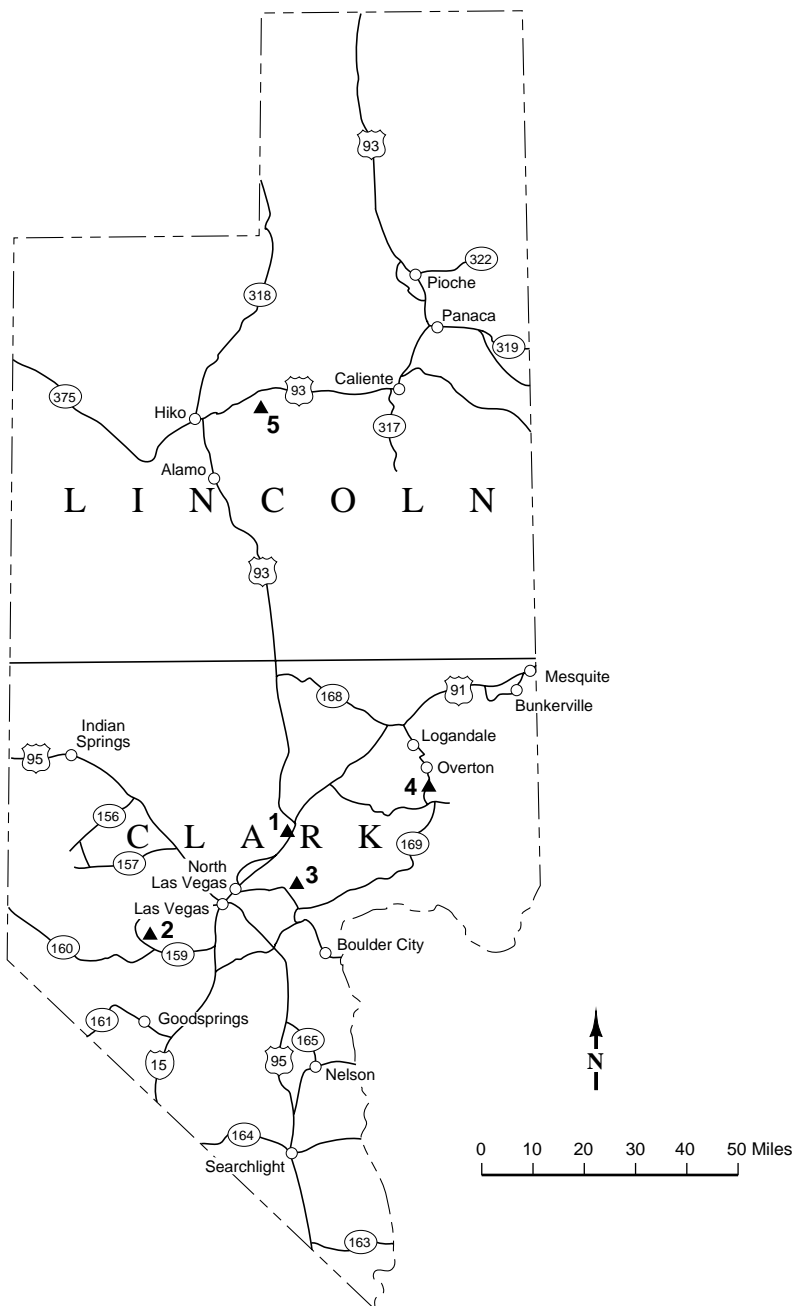
### **Tonopah Mine (9)**

#### *Operator:*

Equatorial Tonopah, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1569  
Tonopah, NV 89049  
775-482-3813 Fax: 482-3843  
Company employees: 99  
Contract employees: 97

#### *Production:*

Copper



## Section VII

### **Clark County**

#### **Apex Quarry and Plant (1)**

*Operator:*

Chemical Lime Co.  
P.O. Box 3609  
North Las Vegas, NV 89036  
702-643-7702 Fax: 643-9517  
Company employees: 76

*Production:*

Limestone, lime

#### **James Hardie Gypsum (2)**

*Operator:*

James Hardie Gypsum  
HCR 89033, Box 2900  
Las Vegas, NV 89124  
702-875-4111 Fax: 875-4213  
Mine employees: 22

*Production:*

Gypsum - 569,485 tons

#### **PABCO Gypsum (3)**

*Operator:*

Pacific Coast Building  
Products, Inc.  
1973 N. Nellis Blvd. #328  
Las Vegas, NV 89115  
702-643-1016 Fax: 643-6249  
Company employees: 120  
Contract employees: 4

*Production:*

Gypsum - 936,740 tons

#### **Simplot Silica Products (4)**

*Operator:*

Simplot Industries  
P.O. Box 308  
Overton, NV 89040  
702-397-2667 Fax: 397-2798  
Company employees: 43

*Production:*

Silica sand - 671,800 tons

### **Lincoln County**

#### **Tenacity Perlite Mine and Mill (5)**

*Operator:*

Wilkin Mining & Trucking, Inc.  
P.O. Box 829  
Panaca, NV 89042  
775-728-4463 Fax: 728-4456  
Company employees: 8

*Production:*

Perlite

## SUMMARY OF 2000 PRODUCTION

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Gold	8,585,000	ounces *
Silver	23,205,000	ounces *
Barite (shipped)	480,000	tons
Copper	11,670,000	pounds
Diatomite	**	
Dolomite	**	
Gypsum	2,138,000	tons
Limestone	**	
Lithium carbonate	**	
Magnesium oxide	**	
Mercury	**	
Perlite	**	
Precious opal	**	
Salt	13,000	tons
Silica sand	672,000	tons
Specialty clay	85,000	tons

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\*Includes production from smaller mines not listed in this report.

\*\*Proprietary information.

## Economic Impacts of Mining in Nevada—2000

The Nevada mineral industry led the nation in 2000 in the production of gold, silver, and barite as it has for several years. Nevada also produced a wide variety of other mineral and energy commodities such as aggregates, clays, copper, diatomite, dolomite, geothermal energy, gypsum, lapidary and gem stones, lime and limestone, lithium compounds, magnesium compounds, oil, perlite, salt, silica, and specialty aggregates and clays. The total value of Nevada's mineral production in 2000 was about \$2.7 billion (not including oil and geothermal energy). The production of precious metals accounted for about \$2.5 billion.

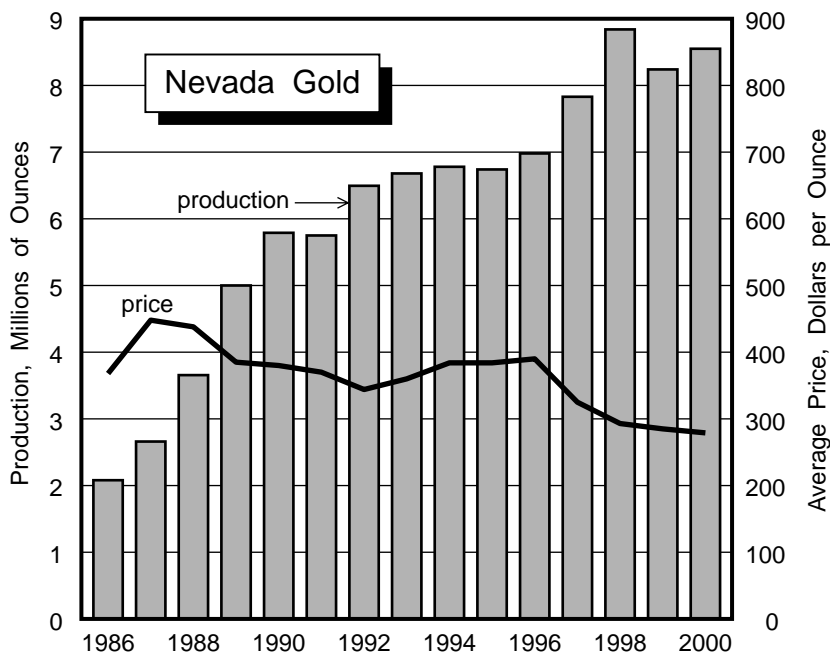
producer of gold in the world, behind only South Africa and Australia. Underground operations contributed about 20% of the gold production in 2000. Silver production climbed to 23,205,000 troy ounces, up from 1999's level of 19,470,000 ounces. The year 2000 was the sixth year out of the past seven that Nevada's silver production has exceeded 20 million ounces. Nevada's nickname, the "Silver State," is still appropriate. Copper production was about 11.7 million pounds, down from the 61.8 million pounds produced in 1999. Gypsum production was about 2.1 million tons, down from the 2.6 million tons produced in 1999.

### Production Highlights

Nevada's gold production was 8,585,000 troy ounces in 2000, the third year in a row above the 8 million ounce mark. This is higher than the 8,261,000 ounces produced in 1999, but short of 1998's record level of 8,865,000 ounces. Nevada is the third largest

### Employment

According to the Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation, the Nevada mining industry employed approximately 11,050 employees for the last quarter of 1999 and the first three quarters of 2000, the latest yearlong period for which



employment figures are available. The average pay for mineral industry employees was \$57,906 for this time period, the highest average of any employment sector in the state. In addition, it is estimated that there are over 36,000 jobs in the state relating to providing goods and services needed by the mining industry. Mining employment has dropped for the third year in a row due primarily to continued low commodity prices and a slowdown in the development of new precious metals mines.

**Taxes and Other Impacts**

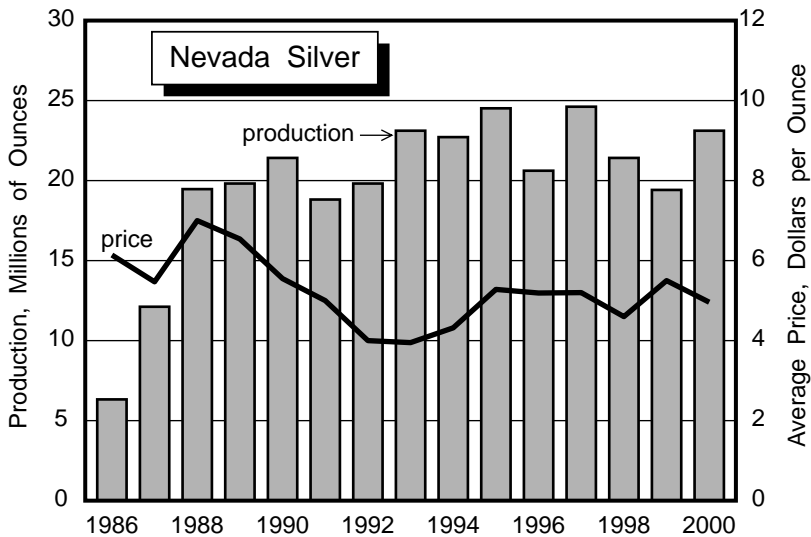
The taxes paid by the mining industry to state and local government include property taxes, sales and use tax, and unique to the mining industry, net proceeds of mines tax. Based on information from the Nevada Department of Taxation, the property taxes paid by the mining industry in 1999 totaled \$26.4 million. The amount of property taxes paid in the year 2000 is not known at this time. Sales and use taxes for fiscal year 2000 (July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000) are calculated to be \$10.4 million, based on \$159.8 million in sales multiplied by an average rate of 6.5 %. The preliminary amount of net proceeds of mines taxes due pending appeals in 2000 was \$30.7 million.

**Permitting and Reclamation**

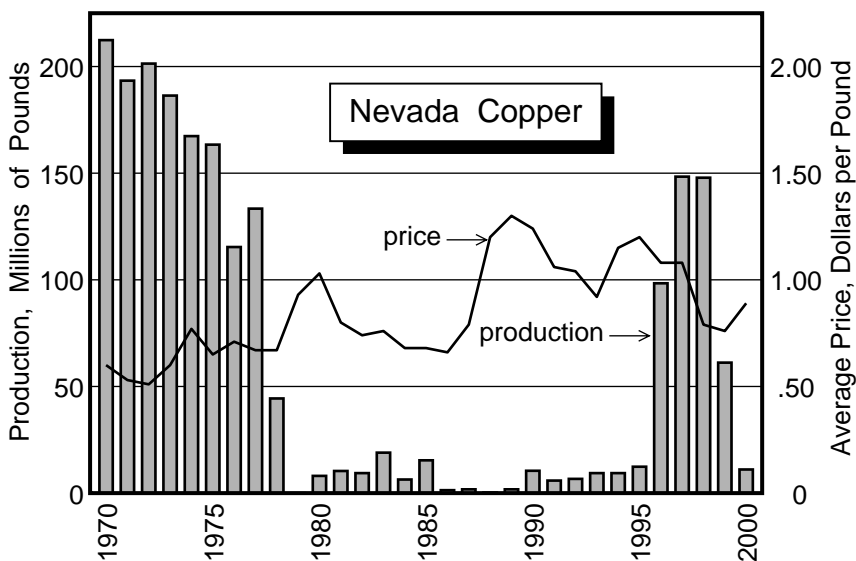
Before mining can take place, plans of operation must be submitted and permits must be obtained from federal and state agencies to ensure that other resources such as wildlife, air, and water are protected. Nevada and federal laws and regulations require that lands disturbed by mining activities must be rehabilitated so they can be used for other purposes once mining is completed. This process, called reclamation, returns mined areas to other productive uses such as livestock grazing, wildlife habitat, or new industrial applications. To ensure that reclamation is done, mine operators are required to post reclamation bonds that are held by government agencies. The bonds are released only after the mined area is stabilized and the reclamation goals have been met. Over \$531 million in reclamation bonds are currently posted. Mine operators are proud of their efforts and are constantly seeking ways to enhance their reclamation technology.

**Gold Reserves**

Nevada’s reported gold reserves at or near currently operating mines that can be mined at a profit under current economic conditions



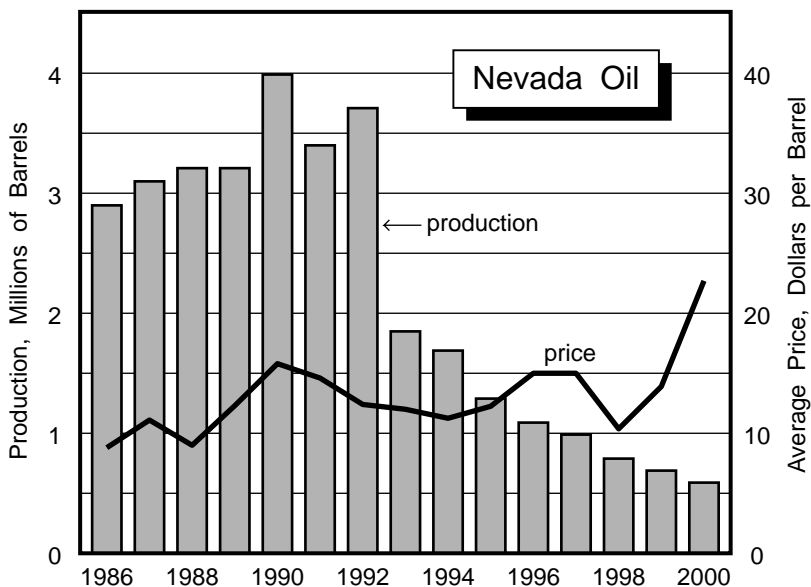




stood at about 73 million troy ounces at the end of 2000. The amount of reserves is always in a state of flux, with some reserves being lost to production, additional discoveries being made, and changing economic conditions. These reserves are down by about 14 million ounces from the 87 million ounces reported for the end of 1999. The price of gold and the cost of production are the main factors in determining whether a reserve is really a reserve or just a sub-economic resource. With the current price of gold between \$260 and \$270 per ounce, many companies have had to reevaluate their reserves and reclassify some as resources. Extensive gold resources, not currently economic, exist at or near many operations. An increase in the gold price would mean many companies would be able to reclassify their resources back into a reserve category. An increase in the cost of regulatory compliance has the same effect as a lowering of the gold price, thus increasingly complex and expensive regulations can reduce reserves. Under current conditions, the existing proven reserves are sufficient to sustain gold production at current levels for about 9 years.

## Exploration

Exploration for new deposits, particularly gold, is an ongoing effort by both the producing companies and many others who do not operate mines in the state. Each year, the Division of Minerals conducts an exploration survey to determine the level of exploration activity and the factors that are responsible for those levels. The results for 2000 are not available yet, but the respondents to the 1999 survey indicated they spent \$86.7 million on exploration in Nevada in 1999 and projected spending \$102.0 million in 2000. The respondents reported having 225 geologists on their payrolls in 1999, but projected a decrease to 216 geologists in 2000. Existence of favorable geology was the most important factor influencing the level of the respondents activity, while commodity prices was the second most important factor. Exploration geologists and their support staff of drillers, assayers, and others represent a significant positive economic impact, particularly in Nevada's rural areas.



## Minerals Other Than Gold and Silver

Minerals besides gold and silver are also important to Nevada's economy. Copper and industrial minerals such as barite, diatomite, dolomite, gypsum, limestone, lithium compounds, magnesite, perlite, salt, and specialty clays are produced in the state. Sand, gravel, and crushed stone are critical to the building requirements of the state's infrastructure.

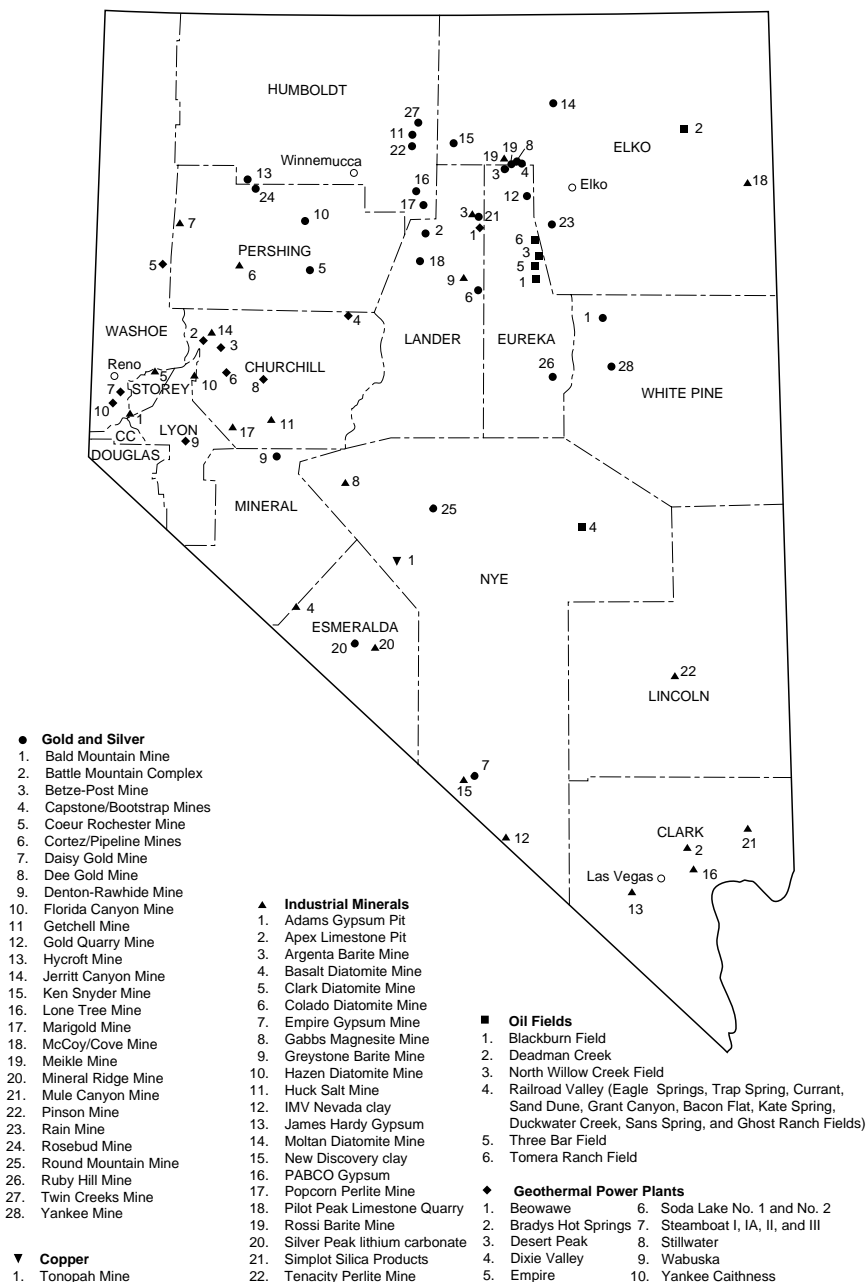
Oil and gas exploration and production is a relatively small industry when compared to mining, but is nonetheless important to the economy of east-central Nevada. In oil field terms, Nevada is considered a frontier, meaning its potential has yet to be realized. Oil production in 2000 was about 621,000 barrels (42 gallons per barrel) with an average value of \$22.68 per barrel for a total calculated value of \$14.1 million. Nevada oil is used for the production of kerosene, diesel, boiler fuel, and asphalt. No natural gas is commercially produced in the state although minor amounts of gas produced from some wells are used to fuel onsite equipment.

Nevada is rich in geothermal resources, and is second only to California in the production of geothermal power in the

United States. Currently, Nevada has 14 plants at 10 locations that produced approximately 1.26 million megawatt hours of electricity. This is enough to power about 80,000 typical homes. Geothermal heat is also used for a variety of commercial, domestic, and public applications in Nevada. Mining and agriculture are among the beneficiaries of geothermal heat. Schools in Elko County, and homes and commercial buildings in Lincoln and Washoe Counties are examples of public and private facilities using this renewable energy source.

## Conclusion

Nevada's mineral industry continued to be a major economic force in the state during 2000. This situation should continue for many years to come. Challenges will exist, as they always have, but Nevada's mineral reserves and the potential to add to them will spur the creativity of the mineral industry. During the past years of relatively low commodity prices, many producers have found ways to cut their production costs. They will be well positioned to take advantage of increased margins when commodity prices improve.



Major mines, oil fields, and geothermal plants, 2000.

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